

Edwards: Hood County to Receive Local Law Enforcement Funding from Stimulus

(Washington, D.C.) – United States Representative Chet Edwards announced today that the Hood County Sheriff's Department will receive \$21,474 in funding from the Stimulus legislation signed by the President on February 17th. These funds will be distributed through the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program to the Hood County Sheriff's Department.

"Ensuring the safety of our communities is one of my top priorities," said Edwards. "These funds will help the Sheriff's Department upgrade equipment and keep our streets and law enforcement personnel safe."

The JAG program allows local governments to engage in a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and improve their criminal justice system. It provides counties and cities wide flexibility to prioritize their needs and place justice funds where they are most needed. The grant award may be used to help pay for new personnel, law enforcement programs, prevention programs, multi-jurisdictional drug task forces, or technology improvement projects.

"Creating jobs and protecting our families from criminals are positive uses of federal stimulus funds," concluded Edwards.

Hood County Sheriff Roger Deeds said, "We are extremely grateful to Congressman Chet Edwards for his efforts in securing justice assistance grant funds for the Hood County Sheriff's Office. These funds will be applied toward law enforcement programs in the areas of equipment and technology for Drug Enforcement Operations. Hood County has like other areas of the country have been affected by illegal drugs and enforcement is hard without the proper equipment to fight this type of crime. The Hood County Sheriff's Office is hopeful that the grant funds will take us one step closer to reaching our goal of becoming the safest county in the Great State of Texas."

As announced last week, Edwards also secured \$250,000 to improve and integrate the City of Granbury's criminal record system. This funding is part of the fiscal year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill, which passed the House and is pending before the Senate.